

POCONO
YOUTH
ORCHESTRA

Winter Concerts

Saturday, January 9, 2010

Sunday, January 10, 2010

2009-2010 SEASON

Christmas Tree Lighting at Stroudsmoor, December 6, 2009
String-Along at Grace Park Retirement Community, December 15, 2009

Winter Concerts, January 9 & 10, 2010

Carnegie Hall Trip to New York Youth Symphony Concert,
March 7, 2010

Spring Concerts, June 5 & 6, 2010

2010-2011 Season Auditions, June 7, 2010

AUDITIONS NOTICE

Auditions for new members for both the PYO and the PJSO will be held on Monday, June 7, 2010, at Stroudsburg Area Junior High School. Openings are anticipated in the PYO for high school musicians playing violin, viola, cello, string bass, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trombone, tuba, and percussion. All students through present high school juniors are eligible to apply. In the PJSO, performing opportunities exist for all accomplished young string instrumentalists in elementary and middle school. Minimum requirements are at least two years of private instruction and strong music reading ability.

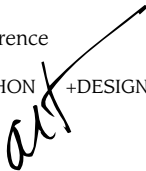
Auditions, which last about ten minutes, will be scheduled by appointment. Students will be asked to perform a prepared solo piece of their choice, and to sight read appropriate music for their instrument.

Both orchestras rehearse weekly throughout the school year on Monday evenings. They perform two formal concerts each year as well as a Christmas "String-Along," and other performance opportunities. Each year orchestra members also attend a New York Youth Symphony concert at Carnegie Hall.

To schedule an audition or for more information, please call Anthony or Audrey Simons at (610) 965-0268 or visit our website at www.poconoyouth-orchestra.org.

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POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

ANTHONY SIMONS, *MUSIC DIRECTOR*
AUDREY SIMONS, *STRINGS ASSISTANT*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010

7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010

3:00 P.M.

CECILIA S. COHEN RECITAL HALL
EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY

THE DIRECTORS

Anthony Simons, music director, maintains a career as an orchestral performer, chamber music musician, solo recitalist and music educator. Mr. Simons has been a member of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, the Pocono Pops Orchestra and the Chaminade Wind Quintet. In addition, he has served as the principal clarinetist of the Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra and the Haff Chamber Music Series, and has performed with the Alexandria (VA) Symphony, Annapolis (MD) Symphony Orchestra, the Champaign-Urbana (IL) Symphony, Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra, Allentown Symphony, and Pottstown Symphony, as well as numerous theatre and opera orchestras. He received the Artist Diploma in clarinet from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, the Master of Music degree in clarinet performance and literature from the University of Illinois, and a music education degree from West Chester University. Mr. Simons is presently on the music faculty at Muhlenberg College, and the East Penn School District, and teaches a private studio of young clarinetists. In 2005, he was selected for inclusion in the 9th Edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Audrey Simons, assistant music director, is an active cellist and instructor. Mrs. Simons is a cellist in the Allentown Symphony Orchestra, and is a founding member of the Classical Attitude String Quartet and the Chestnut Hill Chamber Players. She received the Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance from Susquehanna University. She was subsequently awarded a teaching assistantship at the Temple University Esther Boyer College of Music, where she received the Master of Music degree in music history with summa cum laude honors. In 1996, while teaching music history at Montgomery County Community College, she received the Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence. In 2002, she was selected for inclusion in the 23rd Edition of *Who's Who of American Women*. Currently, Mrs. Simons is a cello instructor on the music faculty and teaches a Cello Techniques class for music education majors at Moravian College.

PROGRAM

Pocono Junior String Orchestra

- Ludwig's Tango Richard Meyer
- "For Unto Us" from Messiah George Frederic Handel
arr. Robert S. Frost
- Erin Isle Sketches Elliot Del Borgo
 Babba Strand
 Cockles and Mussels
 The Minstrel Boy
- Ice Sculptures Brian Balmages

INTERMISSION

Pocono Youth Orchestra

- Egmont Overture, Op. 84 Ludwig van Beethoven
- Selections from American Suite Antonin Dvorak
arr. Brendan McBrien
 I. Andante con moto
 II. Andante
 III. Allegro
- Concerto Grosso in E minor, Op. 6, No. 3 G.F. Handel
 I. Larghetto
 II. Andante
 III. Allegro
 IV. Polonaise: Andante
 V. Allegro, ma non troppo
- PYO Strings*
Erica Jack, Cindy Mathiesen, Maddison Kendrick, Anne Lloyd
violin soloists
Joseph Chacra, violoncello soloist

- Tribute to Charles Strouse arr. Ted Ricketts
 Applause - Rags - Once Upon a Time -
 Golden Boy - Tomorrow - Put on a Happy Face
- Romeo and Juliet Fantasy - Overture Peter Ilitch Tchaikovsky

*The music is partially funded through grants provided by the
Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts and the East Stroudsburg
Savings Association Charitable Foundation.*

POCONO JUNIOR STRING ORCHESTRA

Violin

India Baker
Tristan Boheim
Augustin Cavalier
Josh Charlton
Maura Dougherty
Nia Esposito
Elias Fernandez
William Gold
Alexandra Kozak
Michael Kozak
Abigail Lantz
Kariem Morssy
Sarah Osman
Nicholas Park

Olivia Reed
Joseph Snyder
Grace Sobrinski
Lily Sobrinski
Rosie Sobrinski
Sabrina Steed
Eva Marie Swartout

Viola

Emily Geiger
Miranda Powers
Maci Kendrick
Lexi Meisse
Marissa Mesko

Cello

Sarah Tomlinson
Sophia Rostock
Elizabeth Whidden
Teveya Edwards

Bass

Adam DeSchraver

*seating rotates

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Violin

Adam Barth
Brianna Brown
Amy Chryst
Aislinn Crank+
Enya Cunningham
Kelsey Day
Natalie Gilbert
Ashley Gyarmaty+
Holly Holmes+
Erica Jack+
Maddison Kendrick
Rebecca Kuc
Emily Lantz
Joan Little
Anne Lloyd
Kyle Mahaney
Anna Maroney
Cindy Mathiesen
Lauren Noyes+
Karim Osman
Lanique Roberts+
Natasha Roberts
Gabrielle Truncali
Brianna Weaver

Viola

Kaitlyn Lessard
Maria Vecchio+
Alex Mikels+
Chandler Klein+
Danielle Wyckoff

Cello

Breanna Goldner+
Kaitlin Tackels
Joseph Chacra
Kristen Weaver
Aidan Crank

Bass

John Charlton
Nicole Weaver

Flute

Victoria Visceglia
Anna Long
Ty Gable

Oboe

Rachel Salmon
Nicole Weaver

Clarinet

Molly Maroney+
Cody Cannavo
Devin Diaz

Bassoon

Megan Hockman

Horn

Katie Battle+
Ana Cohen

Trumpet

Ryan McDermott
Kaitlyn Weiss
Mac Tasetano
Aidan Crank

Trombone

Greg Urbanski

Percussion

Matt Altemose+
Weston Anderson
Eric Dwyer
Brennen Wede+

Piano

Lynda Chryst

*string seating rotates
+graduating seniors

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Nice Job Maria!

About Our Students

In PJSO

India Baker is a new member of the PJSO playing violin. She is a 5th grader at Pocono Elementary School. Her favorite subject is science, and she enjoys classical music, especially Beethoven, J.B. Lully, Bach, and Vivaldi. Her favorite authors are Lauren Myracle and Melissa J. Morgan, and she enjoyed reading *Black Beauty* and *Peace, Love and Baby Ducks*. Her hobbies are dancing and reading. She enjoys PJSO because it is a chance to play with other people.

Tristan Boheim is a sixth grader at the Swiftwater Intermediate School. He is playing violin in the PJSO for the first time. At school he plays the alto sax in the band. He likes to read *Harry Potter* books and play soccer. Tristan's favorite composer is George Frederick Handel. He also likes Celtic music. Tristan enjoys the orchestra because he really likes playing the violin and he is happy to join with other string players.

Augustin Cavalier is a home-schooled sixth grader who is playing the violin for the third year in PJSO. His favorite composer is Mozart, and his favorite music is Stellar Kart's *Expect the Impossible*. His favorite subjects are programming and science, and his hobbies include video games and programming. Augustin enjoys reading *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* by Rick Riordan. He hopes to become a professional programmer and/or animator. Augustin enjoys playing in the orchestra because he enjoys the music and likes the challenge.

Josh Charlton is seventh grader at the Easton Area Middle School playing violin for the third year in the PJSO. His favorite subject is English and he likes reading works by Orson Scott Card and Meghan Whalen Turner. His favorite books include *Ender's Game* and *The Thief*. Josh likes alternative music but lists Vivaldi as his favorite composer. He is a 1st class Boy Scout, a member of the National Junior Honor Society and plays with the MadCap Strings. He likes to skateboard. Josh says that he enjoys the PJSO because "It's not the kind of music you play every day in school orchestra."

Adam DeSchriver is a new member of the PJSO playing double bass. He also plays clarinet, bass clarinet, and electric bass and was named to 5th Grade District Band. This year he is a 6th grader at Stroudsburg Middle School and enjoys science and language arts. He lists Chopin, Robert W. Smith, and Beethoven as favorite composers, and Robert W. Smith's *Encanto*, Mozart's *Quintet for Clarinet and Strings*, and Pachelbel's *Canon in D* as favorite pieces. He enjoys the *Eragon*, *Harry Potter*, and the *Percy Jackson* series of books. He finds PJSO a relaxing way to express himself. He would like to study at Peabody Conservatory or Juilliard and play professionally in an orchestra.

Maura Dougherty is a seventh grade student at Easton Area Middle School. This is her second year playing the violin in the PJSO. Her favorite subject is English and her favorite author is Rick Riordan. Maura is a mem-

ber of the Library Acting Group and the Chorale. Her favorite books are *The Last Olympian* and *Keturah and Lord Death*. She is an Essay Contest winner and is on the Honor Roll. Maura enjoys reading and singing and enjoys playing in PJSO because it is fun to make beautiful music. She would like to someday win the lottery and become a journalist.

Teveya Edwards is playing cello with the PJSO for the first time this year. She is a sixth grader at the Stroudsburg Middle School and also plays the piano and likes math and science. Teveya likes pop, hip hop and some classical music and lists Johann Sebastian Bach as her favorite composer. She likes to read fiction especially by Annie Barrows and Stephanie Blackwell. She belongs to the Pathfinder Club and has won awards at the Gymnastic School. Teveya likes PJSO because it is fun and she learns new things every day. She wants to go to college and become a teacher.

Nia Esposito is a third grade home schooled student at the Learning Place. She is playing violin for the first time with the PJSO this year. She likes history, math, music, geography and art. She lists Bach, Mozart, Liszt, and Handel as her favorite composers and likes both classical music and jazz. She loves to read, especially the *Narnia* Series by C. S. Lewis and books by Mark Twain. She is enjoying being part of the orchestra.

Elias Fernandez is a new member of the PJSO playing violin. He attends Barrett Elementary Center in 3rd grade and his favorite subject is math. He lists Mozart and Bach as favorite composers, and rock music and the Beatles as favorite music. For reading he finds Dr. Seuss and J.B. Jones are his favorites. He belongs to the Stroudsburg congregation Jehovah's Witnesses. He likes bike riding, soccer, and baseball. He likes that PJSO gives him a chance to play along with others. Elias hopes to be an auto mechanic or astronaut some day.

Emily Geiger is a seventh grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. While she is playing the viola in her fourth year in PJSO, she also plays the violin and cello. Her favorite composers are Vivaldi and Bach, and she enjoys all types of music. Reading is her favorite subject and her favorite books are the *Harry Potter* Series, *Lock and Key*, and the *Blue Blood* Series. Emily is a member of the seventh grade chorus, orchestra, chamber orchestra and field hockey team. She is on the High Honor Roll and has received the Music and Excellence Award. She enjoys meeting new people at PJSO and playing music together. She would someday love to work with animals or become a music teacher.

William Gold is 15 years old in 9th grade at Pocono Mountain West. This is his fourth year in PJSO playing violin and he writes, "The Simons are the best and the music is fun." He also plays the trumpet. His favorite composer and music is John Williams and Star Wars. William likes Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. He is a boy scout and a member of the junior national honor society. His hobbies are basketball, baseball, soccer, and ski class. He wants to go to college.

Maci Kendrick is a 6th grader at Stroudsburg Middle School where she is listed on the high honor roll. This is her first year in PJSO, playing viola. She has fun playing new songs in PJSO. She also plays cello. Her favorite music is Top 40, and favorite composers are Bach and Mozart. *Nancy Drew*, *Harry Potter* and *Gallagher Girls* are favorite reads. Her hobbies are tennis and running, and she belongs to Girls on Track. Maci would love to become a detective like Nancy Drew.

Alexandra Veronica Kozak is an eighth grade Honor Society student at the Stroudsburg Junior High School and is playing violin for the second year with the PJSO. She likes pop music, books by Michael Lewis, playing field hockey, running and swimming. Alexandra lists Chopin as her favorite composer and *A Living Dead Girl* and *The Blind Side* as her favorite books. She likes math and tech ed and serves as a manager for wrestling. She plans to go to college and become a medical doctor. Alexandra likes PJSO because she is learning to play better.

Michael F. Kozak is a ninth grade honor student at Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is his second year playing violin with the PJSO. He also plays the guitar and belongs to the football team, the wrestling team and track and field. Science is his favorite subject and he likes classical music, especially by Mozart. Michael's favorite author is Stephenie Meyer and he enjoys reading the *Twilight* Series. He plans to complete high school, go to college and medical school and eventually become a plastic reconstructive surgeon. Michael enjoys the orchestra because it's a good learning experience and improves his playing skills.

Abigail Lantz is a 7th grader at Stroudsburg Middle School, where her favorite subject is language arts and she is in chorus, band, and jazz band. This is her second year playing violin in the PJSO. She also plays flute and piano. She won first place in the state and region Youth in Music for junior composition. In the PMFC Junior Festival, she has received gold cups in piano, violin, composition and voice. Her favorite music is country, pop, and "mostly anything." Her favorite authors are Stephenie Meyer, and books *Twilight* and *The Wish*. She enjoys orchestra because she loves learning new things every year.

Lexi Meisse is in 6th grade at Stroudsburg Middle School, and her favorite subject is language arts. This is her first year playing viola for the PJSO. Her favorite classical composer is Bach, and she likes pop music. Her favorite authors are Stephenie Meyer and J.K. Rowling. She also enjoyed reading *The Westing Game*. She is involved in Stroudsburg United Travel Soccer and basketball. She looks forward to improving her skills on viola and attending college. Lexi writes that she sees orchestra as a way to learn something new, fun and exciting.

Marissa Mesko plays the viola in her first year with PJSO. She attends Stroudsburg Middle School in the seventh grade where her favorite subjects are math and language arts. Her favorite types of music are pop, classical, and dance and her favorite composer is Elliot DelBorgo. Her favorite books are *Fifth of March* and *The Summoning*. Marissa is a member of the Pocono

Piranhas Swim Team, and she works in the school store. She has received the President's Education Award and the Math Achievement Award. Marissa wants to go to college and to continue playing the viola.

Kariem Morssy plays violin in his first year with the PJSO. He is a seventh grader at the Stroudsburg Middle School where his favorite subject is social studies. He is trying to play the guitar as well. Kariem's favorite kind of music is classical and his favorite composer is Beethoven. He likes to read the *Twilight* series and *The Awakening*, and his favorite author is Kelley Armstrong. Kariem hopes to play in an official opera and enjoys the PJSO because he has the time "to just play music and not care about anything."

This is **Sarah Osman's** first year in the PJSO. Sarah plays the violin and is in the seventh grade at Stroudsburg Middle School. She enjoys studying the violin with Mrs. Stacie Lyon.

Nicholas Park is a 7th grader at Stroudsburg Middle School. His favorite subjects are math and science. He has played violin for 2 years in PJSO. He also plays piano and guitar. His favorite music is Christian music, and his favorite composer is Beethoven. He likes reading the *Harry Potter* series. Card collecting is his hobby. Nicholas enjoys PJSO for learning new songs and being able to play them for people.

Miranda Powers is in 7th grade at Stroudsburg Middle School, and her favorite subject is science. She has played viola for two years in PJSO. She also plays cello and piano. She likes listening to alternative and pop music. Her favorite composer is Bach. Her favorite authors are Stephenie Meyer and J.K. Rowling. She also enjoyed reading *The Notebook*. She also belongs to the SMS chamber orchestra, the PMEA intermediate district orchestra, and the Pocono Piranhas Swim Team. She likes swimming, softball, and reading. She wants to continue to play the viola through college. Miranda says the PJSO allows her to try new and challenging music while meeting new people.

Olivia Reed is playing violin for the second year with the PJSO and is a seventh grader at the Stroudsburg Middle School. She likes reading and her favorite author is Melissa de la Cruz. Olivia likes modern music and also plays the drums. She enjoys the orchestra because it is a challenge and she likes the music.

Sophia Rostock is in her second year playing cello with the PJSO. She also plays the piano and likes pop music. Sophia is a seventh grader at the Stroudsburg Middle School where she plays in the orchestra. She has been honored with a Presidential Award and a Gym Award and was selected as the Student of the Month. Reading is her favorite subject and one of her hobbies. Sophia likes to read books by J. K. Rowling, Stephenie Meyer, and Sarah Dessen, especially *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* and *Along for the Ride*. Swimming and sports round out her hobbies. Sophia likes PJSO because she meets new people and plays cool music. Eventually, she would like to do something with animals.

Joseph Snyder is in his first year with the PJSO playing violin. He is a seventh grade honor student at Notre Dame Middle School where his favorite subject is science. Joseph also plays the bells and like classical as well as rap/rock music. Vivaldi is his favorite composer, and J. K. Rowling is his favorite author. His hobbies are violin and baseball, and he hopes to become a lawyer and a pilot. He enjoys the PJSO because it gives him a chance to play with others.

Grace Sobrinski is a fifth grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her second year in PJSO playing the violin. She also plays the piano. Grace's favorite subject is art and her favorite composer is Vivaldi. She enjoys the music of The Beatles and ABBA. Her favorite authors are Isobelle Carmody and J.K. Rowling. Grace's favorite books are *The Little Fur Series* and the *Harry Potter Series*. She is a member of Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, Girl Scouts, and Girls on the Run. Grace enjoys running, sewing, reading and ice-skating. Her future plans include owning a tank full of multicolored starfish.

Lily Sobrinski plays the violin in her second year with PJSO. She is a sixth grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. She also plays the piano and the harp and her favorite subjects are language arts, art, and orchestra. Lily's favorite composers are Gershwin and Grieg. She enjoys the music of the Beatles and ABBA. Her favorite authors are Kristin Cashore and J.K. Rowling and her favorite books are *Graceling*, *Fire*, and the *Harry Potter Series*. Lily is a member of Girls on Track and she likes to quilt, read, ice-skate and play music. She likes the challenge of playing in PJSO and hopes to someday travel to Australia.

Rosie Sobrinski is an eighth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is her fifth year with PJSO playing the violin. She also plays the guitar and the piano and enjoys music by The Beatles and ABBA. Rosie's favorite subjects are art, orchestra, and chorus. Her favorite authors are J.K. Rowling and Christopher Paolini. She is a member of the Cross Country Team and the Art Club and enjoys reading, running, ice-skating, crafts and filmmaking. She enjoys PJSO because she finds it fun to learn new music and to play with other people.

Sabrina Steed is playing violin for the third year with the PJSO. She is a distinguished honor roll student in the ninth grade at Northampton High School where she participates in Rainbow, student council, chess club, French club, and math club. Her favorite subject is science, and her favorite author is Stephenie Meyer. Sabrina likes all kinds of music and selected George Gershwin and Handel as her favorite composers. She likes texting, reading, shopping, being with friends and music. She enjoys PJSO because "I like to meet new people with the same musical interest as me and to learn new music." Sabrina hopes to attend Wilkes University and become a pharmacist.

EvaMarie Swartout is an eighth grade student at Stroudsburg Junior High and this is her second year in PJSO playing the violin. Eva also plays the

piano, and science is her favorite subject. She likes all types of music and many modern composers. Her favorite author is Laurie Faria Stolarz, and her favorite books include *Deadly Little Secret*, *Blue is for Nightmares*, and *13 Reasons Why*. Eva is a High Honor Roll student and enjoys soccer, horseback riding, and reading. She hopes to someday go to college and be successful at whatever she chooses.

Sarah Tomlinson is a home-schooled student in the ninth grade and plays the cello in her second year with PJSO. Her favorite subjects are history and English. Sarah's favorite composers are John Williams, Duke Ellington, Andrew Bird, and Jason Mraz. Her favorite type of music is alternative, although she enjoys many types. Her favorite authors are Chris Riddell, Kai Meyer, Scott Westerfield, and Stephenie Meyer. Sarah enjoys snowboarding, cooking, and hanging out with friends. She likes PJSO because it offers her a nice challenge and is something to work towards. She looks forward to a future in culinary arts or in creative writing.

Elizabeth Whidden is a seventh grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her second year in PJSO playing the cello. She also plays the piano and her favorite subject is language arts. Elizabeth's favorite composer is Boccherini, and she enjoys many types of music. Her favorite authors are J.K. Rowling and Eva Ibbotson. She is a member of Notara School of Dance and is a High Honor Roll student. She also was invited to Northeastern PA's Mathematics Contest and has received a gold cup in the PFMC junior festival. Elizabeth would like to go to Medical School and then cooking school.

And In PYO

Matthew Altemose is a Pleasant Valley senior percussion player in his fourth year with the PYO. He plays with the marching band at school and is in the Key Club. He likes hard rock and metal music, mathematics and music by Hans Zimmer. His favorite authors are Kurt Vonnegut and Douglas Adams. His favorite books are *Slaughter House Five*, and *HitchHikers Guide to the Galaxy*. He likes snowboarding and drumming. Matthew likes the PYO because of the overall different sound from a concert band. His future plans include college and becoming an engineer, husband and father.

Weston Anderson is a junior, who is home schooled and is playing percussion for his fourth year in PYO. His favorite composers are Jeremy Soule, John Williams, and Martin O'Donnell and his favorite music is world music and soundtracks. History is Weston's favorite subject, and his hobbies include reading, video games, and walks. He also holds a black belt in karate. He is a member of the Shio Karate Club and the United Astronomy Clubs of New Jersey. A few of his favorite books are *Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* series and *Way of the Peaceful Warrior*. Weston is considering astronomy, photography, and history as possible careers. He enjoys playing exciting orchestra pieces with his friends in the PYO.

Adam Barth is a new member of the PYO. He is a ninth grader in the Nationals Jr. Honor Society at Pocono Mountain East. He plays violin in the orchestra but also plays tenor saxophone, alto saxophone, soprano saxophone, penny whistle, and piano. Adam's favorite composer is John Williams and classical, soundtracks, and oldies are his favorite music. Adam plays in the Pocono Mountain East Marching Band and the Concert Band and enjoys his hobbies of playing different instruments, watching movies, and television. He is enjoying the new experience of playing in an orchestra and hopes to attend Penn State and play in the Blue Band.

Katie Battle is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing French Horn for the second year with the PYO. She has been selected for District Band twice and District Orchestra once. She also plays trumpet and mellophone and belongs to the Marching Band, the Jazz Band, the Pit Orchestra and the Percussion Ensemble. Katie likes all kinds of music and selected John Williams, Hans Zimmer and Harry Gregson-Williams as her favorite composers. She likes to read books by Dan Brown and Robert Ludlum including *Angels and Demons*, *Lost Symbol*, and *The DaVinci Code*. Katie enjoys PYO because she loves the sound of a full orchestra. She plans to go to college to major in Music Education.

Brianna Brown attends Stroudsburg Junior High School and is in the ninth grade. This is her first year playing violin in the Pocono Youth Orchestra. She also plays the piano. In addition to classical music, Brianna enjoys rock and also rhythm and blues. Her favorite classical composer is Tchaikovsky. She also enjoys reading books by such authors as Stephenie Meyer and Lois Duncan. In school, she has achieved high honor roll for the past four years and participates in student council, the student ambassador program and chamber orchestra. She enjoys orchestra because "it allows me to express my feelings creatively." Future plans include becoming a fashion designer.

Cody Cannavo is a freshman at Bangor Area High School, and in his second year with the PYO. He plays the clarinet in the orchestra and also plays both the alto and tenor saxophone and is in the marching band and jazz band. His favorite subject is science and enjoys making movies and animation. A few of Cody's favorite composers are Beethoven, Charlie Parker, and Coltrane and listening to rock, jazz, and classical music. His favorite author is Max Brooks and favorite books are *Zombie Survival Guide*, *World War Z*, and *HitchHikers Guide to the Galaxy*.

This is **Joseph Chacra's** second year playing cello in the PYO after playing in PJSO for three years. He is a homeschooled tenth grader. He also plays the piano and hopes to someday learn guitar. His favorite composers are Baroque composers, Bach and Handel. His favorite subject in school is math, but he loves to learn new things about all subjects. His favorite authors are Ray Bradbury and Ken Follett. His hobbies include Karate where he has won trophies and superior ratings, and "blogging." He also participates in Boy Scouts and the Berean Youth Group. He likes orchestra because he is exposed to a variety of musical styles. In the future, Joseph hopes to study mathematics and help advance our academic world with his expertise as a professor.



Contributions 2009-2010

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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Cohen
Julie Park
Lisa Powers
Jennifer L. White and Howard P. Whidden

This list includes all contributions received as of December 20, 2009

Amy Chryst is a ninth grade home school student, who is in her first year playing violin in the PYO following four years in the PJSO. Music is her favorite subject. Tchaikovsky is her favorite composer, and she enjoys listening to classical, Celtic, and movie music. Amy's favorite authors are Victor Hugo, Charles Dickens, and C. S. Lewis, and has enjoyed reading *Les Miserables* and the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Some of the organizations she is involved with include playing violin in the Worship Team at First Baptist Church of East Stroudsburg and the National Music Federation of Music Clubs. She won an award in the Junior Instrumental category at the 2009 Youth in Music Excellence Awards competition and won a similar award in 2008. Amy's hobbies include reading, singing, participating in plays, making jewelry, and Irish dancing. She enjoys playing in the PYO because she likes to hear how her part fits with the rest of the orchestra and the improvement from the beginning of a season to the time of a concert. In the future, she would like a career involving music.

Lynda Chryst is a junior who is home schooled. She plays the piano and is in her first year with the PYO, but has played piano with the PJSO in a number of the concerts. She also plays recorder, bells, drums, and has recently started clarinet. The subjects most enjoyable to Lynda are music and literature. Her favorite composers are Andrew Lloyd Webber, Irving Berlin, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Chopin, John Williams and Jeff Hitt; she enjoys the music of John Williams, Takako Nishizaki, Nicole Nordeman, and Barlow Girl. Her favorite authors are Karen Kingsbury, Tullian Tchividjian, Lisa Yee, and Brian Jacques, and her favorite books are *To Kill a Mocking Bird* and *Millicent Man*. Lynda is active in First Baptist Worship Team as a pianist and the National Federation of Music Clubs. She won an award in the Senior Instrumental/Ensemble category at the 2009 Youth in Music Excellence Awards competition and won a similar award in 2008. Also, in 2008, she won best essay for Pennsylvania in the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC), and earned two gold cups in piano solo and 1 cup for theory also from the NFMC. Her hobbies include music, journaling, writing letters, photographing animals, tennis, ping pong, and doodling. Lynda enjoys playing in the orchestra because "Its fun to play with other musicians my age, since playing piano is usually a solo performance." In the future, Lynda would like to major in Music Performance or Music Education, with a minor in Literature/Writing, and continue playing in ensembles and duets. "I would like to make it to Carnegie Hall or Lincoln Center some day."

Ana Cohen is in ninth grade at East Stroudsburg High School South. This is her first year with the PYO, and plays the French horn. Her favorite subjects are math and science, and she enjoys a variety of composers' works and music. Some of Ana's favorite books are *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin and *Dark Whispers* by Bruce Coville. She is involved in the Girl Scouts and the Choraliers - East Stroudsburg High School Select Choir. Ana has won a Girl Scout Silver Award and an award for ACDA Children's Choir 2010. Her hobbies include reading, singing, playing the French horn, listening to music, and sudoku. Ana enjoys seeing how the different parts of the orchestra fit together. In the future she hopes to earn a Ph. D. in a field of science. She would also like to be free of dependence on non-renewable resources.

Aidan Crank is a sophomore at Stroudsburg. He has been playing cello and trumpet with the PYO for two years. Prior to that he played cello for five years in PJSO. He also plays the ukulele and guitar. His favorite subject in school is physics. His favorite composers are Chopin and Vivaldi. Aidan enjoys the music of The Kooks, Jay Z and Modest Mouse. His favorite author is Ayn Rand. He is a member of the Varsity Scholastic Scrimmage team, Model Congress, Mock Trial, FBLA, soccer, tennis, chess team, Chamber Orchestra and Jazz Band. His hobbies include reading and making music. Aidan hopes to attend a 4-year university.

Aislinn Crank is a senior and a high honor roll student at Stroudsburg High School. She has been playing violin with PYO for three years. Prior to that she played for five years in PJSO. History is her favorite subject. Her favorite composers are Hans Zimmer, Dvorak, and John Williams. Aislinn enjoys Mika's music and anything that's catchy. Jane Austen is her favorite author. *Pride and Prejudice*, *Gulliver's Travels* and *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* series are her favorite books. Aislinn participates in many school activities. She is secretary of the National Honor Society and secretary of Model Congress. She is active in FBL, Mock Trial, Chamber Orchestra, Science Olympiad and Medical Explorers. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar and won second place in the Rotary Essay Contest. Her hobbies include volunteering at the hospital and reading. She enjoys the orchestra because it's fun to play challenging music and perform with her friends. Aislinn hopes to attend a 4-year college/university and go on to medical school.

John Charlton is playing double bass with the PYO for the first time following four years with the PJSO. He is a ninth grader at Easton Area High School where his favorite subjects are music and English. He also plays the electric bass, trombone and piano. He likes jazz and punk/SKA music. His other activities include Boy Scouts and making music with friends. John likes PYO because it is fun and challenging. He plans to graduate with honors and go to all seven continents.

Enya Cunningham is a junior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her third year playing violin with the PYO after 2 years in PJSO. She also plays the bass and cello. She is a member of the SHS Varsity Soccer and Field Hockey teams, National Honor Society, Show Choir, Jazz Band and Pit Orchestra. She is a high honor student. Her favorite subject is chemistry. Enya enjoys listening to Gershwin, Passion Pit and Lykke Li. Her favorite authors include Kurt Vonnegut and J.K. Rowling. In her spare time she likes to play field hockey and soccer and read books. Enya's future plans include attending college and working for an international aid agency such as UNICEF or International Red Cross.

Kelsey Day is in tenth grade at Stroudsburg High School and is playing violin in the PYO for the second year following three years in PJSO. She also plays viola, cello, and piano, and her most enjoyable subject is orchestra. Vivaldi is her favorite composer and alternative-type genre music is her favorite. Her future plans include playing her instruments and pursuing a career that involves music. Kelsey enjoys orchestra because it allows her to play new and challenging music.

Eric Dwyer is in eleventh grade at Stroudsburg High School and is playing percussion for the third year in the PYO. His favorite subject in school is English, and he enjoys the music of Hans Zimmer, Elton John, and Tom Kitt with Broadway, oldies, and rock being the type of music he likes. Eric's favorite authors are Robert Kurson and Tucker Max, and his favorite book is *Shadow Divers*. He is active in the Boy Scouts, Show Choir, Chorale, Cross Country, and school newspaper. Eric is in the top ten percent of his class and has won several awards for high school journalism. He enjoys being in the orchestra because it allows him to see his friends and create great sounding music. His hobbies include running, theater, recording, lighting, and climbing. His plans are to attend college and major in theatrical lighting design, and eventually become a Broadway designer.

Ty Gable is a ninth grader at East Stroudsburg High School and is a new member of the PYO playing flute and piccolo. His favorite subjects are band and world studies. Ty also plays in the band and has won the Band Directors Award for outstanding band member. He has also won an award in the Junior Instrumental category at the 2009 Youth in Music Excellence Awards competition. Ty's favorite composers include Giulio Briccialdi, Georges Bizet and Christoph Gluck, and he thoroughly enjoys solo flute repertoire and flute duets. His favorite authors include Dean Koontz and Stephen King, and his favorite books are *The Watchers* and *The Darkest of the Year*. He looks forward to orchestra as it gives him the opportunity to play with other flautists and orchestra members. In the future, Ty would like to become a Professor specializing in flute or a career in medicine or law.

Natalie Gilbert is a ninth grader at the Stroudsburg Junior High School where her favorite subject is English. She is playing violin for the first time with the PYO this year after three years in the PJSO. She likes classic rock and lists Vivaldi as her favorite composer. Natalie lists the *Harry Potter* books and the *Twilight* series as her favorite books and Nicholas Sparks as her favorite author. She enjoys drawing, community theatre and cross country. Natalie likes the orchestra because it is a challenge. She hopes to write a novel and try out for Broadway shows.

Breanna Goldner is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her fifth year playing cello in the PYO following two years in the PJSO. Her favorite subject is English, and her favorite books include *Peony in Love*, *Jane Eyre* and anything written by Jodi Picoult. Breanna is a member of her school's chamber orchestra, pit orchestra, cross country FBLA, and serves as treasurer of the National Honor Society and president of Pocono Medical Center's Medical Explore program. She also volunteers at Pocono Medical Center and the VNA Hospice House as a music therapist. She is in the top five percent of her class, received six consecutive superior ratings for cello in the NFMC, and qualifies for the PMEA District 10 Orchestra. Breanna is excited to be attending Dickinson College in the fall to study neuroscience on the pre-medicine track.

Ashley Gyarmaty is playing violin with the PYO for her fourth year following two years in the PJSO. She is a high honors student at Stroudsburg High School where she is historian of the National Honor Society and president of

the Stroudsburg orchestra. Ashley lists anything and everything as her favorite music and Hans Zimmer as her favorite composer. Biology, physics and Spanish are her favorite subjects this year. She likes horseback riding, golfing and photography. Her plans include graduating from high school and going to college. Eventually, she hopes to become a cardiologist. Ashley enjoys orchestra because of the people from other schools with both similar and diverse interests.

Megan Hockman is playing bassoon for the first year with the PYO. She is a tenth grader at Pocono Mountain East High School. She also plays mellophone, bass guitar and piano. She is the junior drum major for PME and plays in the marching band and the jazz band. Megan's favorite music is classical especially by Beethoven. Her favorite author is William Butler Yeats. She likes to write. Megan plans to go to Berklee College of Music to major in musical therapy. She enjoys the orchestra because she gets to play the music she enjoys.

Holly Holmes is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her fourth year playing violin in the PYO following three years in the PJSO. She also plays the electric violin. She is a high honor student whose favorite subjects are math and English. Her hobbies include reading, listening to music, hanging out with friends and working with children. She likes seeing her friends at PYO and enjoys improving her talent as a musician by learning more about music and discovering new techniques with her instrument. She belongs to the National Honor Society, FBLA, Key Club, Third Degree and Student Ministries. After attending college, she would like to become a college professor in either engineering or math. One day she wants to live in another country doing mission work with children.

Erica Jack, a senior at Stroudsburg High School, plays violin and is in her seventh year in the PYO, having been in the PJSO for four years previous to that. She also plays drums for the COTA Cats, violin for Chamber Orchestra, is a member of the Art Club, Jazz Band, Chorale, and plays French horn. Her favorite classical composer is Dvorak, and she enjoys listening to alternative Pop. Erica's favorite author is J.K. Rowling and enjoys the *Harry Potter* series. She is in the top 10% of her class, in the National Honor Society, a member of PMEA District Chorus 2007, 2008, and 2009 and District and Regional Band 2008 and 2009, District Orchestra 2009 and 2010, and first place in District Art show, first place MVC Tennis 2007 and 2008. Erica enjoys PYO for the cookies. In the future, she wants to attend college for art and music.

Maddison Kendrick is in her second year with PYO following a year in the PJSO. She is a tenth-grader at Stroudsburg High School where she is in the top 10% of her class. She likes French, dance and reading, especially the *Harry Potter* series, *Twilight* series, *The Vampire Diaries*. Maddison likes both pop music and classical music selecting John Williams, Hans Zimmer and Vivaldi as her favorite composers. She belongs to the Show Choir and has performed in high school musicals. Maddison loves listening to all of the parts of the orchestra come together. She plans to go to college to major in music education.

Chandler Klein is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing viola for the fourth year with the PYO following 2 years in PJSO. She is a National Honor Society student in the top ten percent of her class. Her favorite subjects are art and math, and she won second place in a district art show. Chandler lists Tchaikovsky, Bach and Mehdi Hosseini as her favorite composers and likes music by Sublime, The Eagles and Jack Johnson. She lists Nicholas Sparks and Dan Brown as her favorite authors and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Kite Runner*, and *Catcher in the Rye* as her favorite books. Chandler enjoys the opportunity the orchestra gives her to improve her playing. She wants to go to school in the city and study in another country. She hopes to become an architect.

Rebecca Kuc, a sophomore at LVPA (Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts), has been playing the violin for PYO for 3 years, and previously with PJSO for four years. Her favorite subjects are math, Spanish, and obviously orchestra. Rebecca enjoys listening to all kinds of music, except rap. Her favorite author is Sarah Dessen. Her hobbies include horseback riding and playing the violin. She is involved with ESDCTA, and has won numerous awards with horseback riding, including: ESDCTA Bronze Medal, two Gold Cups in PFMC violin solo event, and two Gold Cups in PFMC violin duet event. Rebecca enjoys playing in the orchestra because it lets her meet new people and teaches her to play well in a group, along with playing difficult music. Her future plans include continuing to horseback ride, play violin, and go to college.

Emily Lantz, a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School, is playing with the PYO for her second year following five years in the PJSO. She also plays piano and flute. She lists English as her favorite subject and enjoys reading and playing the piano. At school, Emily plays in the band and is the accompanist for the show choir. She has won 3 gold cups in violin and in piano as well as one gold cup in voice for the PFMC Junior Festival. She identifies Bach as her favorite composer and likes music by Norah Jones and Michael Buble'. Nicholas Sparks is her favorite author. Emily's favorite books are the *Harry Potter* series, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Outsiders*. Emily likes the variety of music the PYO plays.

Kaitlyn Lessard, a junior at Stroudsburg High School, has played the viola for three years in PJSO and three years in PYO. Her favorite subjects are science courses. Her favorite composers are Telemann and Haydn. She enjoys listening to alternative music and new pop. Emily Giffin is her favorite author, and her favorite book is *Something Borrowed*. Kaitlyn is also involved in Dance competitions, Chamber Orchestra, and National Honors Society. Her main hobby is Dancing. She enjoys playing in PYO, because "its calming and easy to put feeling into." Her future plans include going to San Diego State University and studying Pre-Med.

Joan Little is a tenth grader at East Stroudsburg North beginning her second year playing violin with the PYO. Her favorite subject is English, and she likes R & B music. Joan likes to read the *Harry Potter* books and likes writing and boxing. She enjoys the PYO because she likes to express her feelings in a musical way. Eventually, Joan would like to go to college and become an oncologist.

It's **Anne Lloyd's** second year playing for PYO after playing the violin in PJSO for a single year. A sophomore at Stroudsburg High School, Anne enjoys playing the piano when time permits. Science and language arts are her favorite subjects. Anne's favorite composers are Mozart, Kuhlau, and Bach. She enjoys listening to classical and country music. Nicholas Sparks and John Grogan are her favorite authors, which leads into her favorite books; *The Notebook*, and *Marley and Me*. She is a member of the Stroudsburg High School Orchestra, and has won the Gold Cup award for Piano in the PFMC Junior Festival. Her hobbies include riding her go-kart, swimming, and fishing. Anne enjoys orchestra because she can spend time with kids who enjoy the same things that she does, and she gets to meet new people. As for future ambitions, Anne would like to study Optometry and help find a cure for macular degeneration, along with getting a minor in music studies.

This is **Anna Long's** second year in PYO playing the flute. She is a freshman at Notre Dame High School, where she enjoys geometry and physical sciences. Her favorite composers are Mendelssohn and Bizet. She enjoys listening to pop, hip hop, and classical music in her free time. Anna enjoys reading science fiction, and her favorite authors include Garth Nix and J.K. Rowling. She plays softball, basketball, tennis, and is involved with the school newspaper, school web, and St. Matthews Parish. Anna has been awarded the Bishop's Youth Award and the Elizabeth Anne Seton Award for service to the church. Now, when she finds the time for other hobbies, she likes to text, bike, and surf the web. She enjoys the orchestra, because "when everyone is playing well and all the parts come together, the finished piece is beautiful." Her future plans are to attend either U. Penn or Notre Dame, and to major in Psychology so she can become a school counselor or child psychologist.

Kyle Mahaney is a junior home-schooled student playing in his second year with the PYO following 3 years with the PJSO. Theater and science are his favorite subjects and his hobbies include photography, computers, friends and theater. Kyle lists Vivaldi and Mozart as his favorite composers but likes music by U2, Green Day, Michael W. Smith, the Beatles, and Owl City. He likes the *Harry Potter* series, *Lord of the Rings*, and *Skullduggery Pleasant* while listing James Patterson, Clive Cussler, and Lilian Jackson Braun as his favorite authors. In the future, Kyle wants to study video production and related technologies. He likes PYO because it allows him to stretch the limits of what he thinks he can do.

Anna Maroney, a freshman violinist from Stroudsburg Junior High School, joins us this year in PYO. She had been with PJSO for the last three years, playing the violin, but also enjoys playing the piano and using her voice to make beautiful music in her down time. Her favorite school subject is history, and her favorite composers are John Williams, Vivaldi, Mozart, and J.S. Bach. She likes listening to pop/rock, classical, jazz, and contemporary music; and loves reading books by Stephenie Meyer, which include *The Host*, and the *Twilight* Saga. Anna is also involved with the Junior High Chamber Orchestra, Small Group, and The Sherman Theatre. Her hobbies include vio-

lin, piano, singing, writing songs, reading, and writing. She enjoys the orchestra because “the feeling of playing the violin for any kind of music, and the feeling of being appreciated for your hard work is something I never take for granted.” Her aspirations involve being a violinist in a professional symphony orchestra and to possibly perform her own solo concerts.

A senior at Stroudsburg High School, **Molly Maroney** plays the clarinet and has been with PYO for four years. She also plays the piano, sax, and sings. Music and history are her two favorite subjects. She loves reading books by Terry Goodkind (*The Sword of Truth* series), Robert Jordan (*Wheel of Time* series), and any books by Dan Brown or Michael Crichton. Molly's favorite composers are John Williams, Eric Whitacre, Hans Zimmer, and Morten Lauridsen. She is also involved in many organizations such as Chorale, Pit Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, PMEA, and Youth Group. Molly has been recognized and awarded in PMEA and at National Young Leadership Conference. Her hobbies include reading, music, canoeing, and hanging out with friends. She enjoys orchestra because of the opportunity to play with other people and play different music. Her future ambitions are to attend college at Ithaca, West Chester, or Mansfield, and major in Music Education.

Cynthia Mathiesen, a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School, has played the violin for three years in the PYO, and two years in PJSO. Along with the violin, Cynthia also enjoys playing the cello. Her favorite subject in school is American history. She likes listening to classical music, and has many favorite composers such as Fritz Kreisler, Vivaldi, Ysaye, Bach, Brahms, Beethoven, and many others. She greatly admires American violinist, Isaac Stern. One of Cynthia's favorite authors is Stephenie Meyer, and her favorite books include the *Twilight* saga and Stern's *My First 79 Years*. She is also involved in several organizations including Young People's Philharmonic, SHS Chamber Orchestra, and SHS Chorale. While being on the Honor roll, Cynthia likes to spend her free time canoeing, biking, and practicing violin. She enjoys being in the orchestra because it provides “relief and enjoyment at the end of a stressful school day.” It's an outlet for her. Her future plans and aspirations are to receive a Performance degree at Ithaca College, and to perform in a professional orchestra.

Ryan McDermott is playing trumpet for the third year with the PYO. He is a junior at Stroudsburg High School where he participates in Show Choir, Choir, Marching Band, Jazz Band etc. English is his favorite subject. Ryan likes jazz and music by John Williams. He has been selected for the District 10 choir. He also plays the ukelele and likes sports and snowboarding. Ryan's favorite book is *Sam's Letters to Jennifer* by James Patterson. He plans to go to college to study art design. Ryan likes to play with the PYO because it is such a different feel and experience than band.

Allie Mikels is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her fourth year playing viola in the PYO following 3 years in the PJSO. She also plays piano and violin. Her favorite composers include John Williams and Antonio Vivaldi, and she also likes classic rock and oldies. Her favorite authors and books are C.S. Lewis – *Chronicles of Narnia* and Stephenie Meyer – *Twilight* series. At school she belongs to the National Honors Society, the Show

Choir, Chorale, Chamber Orchestra, pit orchestra, varsity tennis team, FBLA and Model Congress. Allie was also selected as a National Merit Scholar Semifinalist and as "Youth of the Month" for the Exchange Club of the Pocono Mountains. Her hobbies include tennis, skiing and seeing Broadway musicals. She likes PYO because we play a variety of styles and genres of music and it presents a fun challenge and an opportunity to spend time with friends. Upon graduation, she hopes to attend a four-year college/university majoring in mathematics and minoring in either Spanish or economics.

Lauren Noyes is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin in her fourth year with the PYO following 2 years in the PJSO. She likes classic rock/rock and alternative music including the Beatles, Death Cab for Cutie, and Avenged Sevenfold. Lauren is in the top ten percent of her class and has been honored with Science Olympiad and FBLA awards. She likes to read, play her violin, run, ski and play volleyball. Her favorite authors are P.C. Cost, John Greene, J.K. Rowling and Edgar Allen Poe. Lauren's favorite subject this year is anatomy and she plans to attend college to major in biochemistry and eventually go to medical school. She enjoys playing in the orchestra because it gives her a chance to just escape and experience a whole new type of thinking aside from school and work.

Karim Osman is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin for the third year with the PYO following two years with the PJSO. He likes chemistry, computers, running and scuba diving. His favorite authors are George Orwell, Norman Mailer, and Ray Bradbury. His favorite books are *1984*, *The Executioner's Song*, and *Fahrenheit 911*. At school he belongs to the National Honor Society and the Venture Crew 8 and won first place at the TSA National Leadership Conference. Karim likes experimental music, folk music and classic rock. He enjoys the sound of the final performance of the orchestra. Eventually Karim wants to have a career in biochemistry, learn to play the lute, cure cancer and establish world peace.

Lanique Roberts is a high honor roll senior at Notre Dame High School where is a member of the National Honor Society and listed in Who's Who Among American Students. She also participates in Student Council, Chorus, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and S.A.D.D. In her third year with the PYO, Lanique plays the piano as well as the violin. She likes contemporary music and lists Pachelbel and Leroy Anderson as her favorite classical composers. J. K. Rowling, Katherine Paterson, J.D. Salinger, Toni Morrison, and Maya Angelou are her favorite authors. Lanique likes volunteering, singing, making and enjoying music. Her favorite subject is math. She hopes to pursue a career in journalism and broadcast communications after college. She thinks that it is amazing that a large group of people (PYO) can work together and make lovely music for the benefit of others.

Natasha Roberts is playing violin for the third year with the PYO. She is a junior at Notre Dame High School where she likes chemistry, math and psychology. Her favorite composers are Bach, Beethoven and Dvorak, but she likes all genres of music. J.K. Rowling and Richard Hughes are Natasha's favorite authors, and her favorite books are the *Harry Potter* series, the *It Girl* series and *The Scarlet Letter*. She participates in Mock Trial, Peer Listening

and National Honor Society. Natasha's hobbies include computer graphics, singing and school musicals. Orchestra is a place where she "can share my love of music with kids my age." Natasha hopes to go to college, attend medical school and become a cardiovascular surgeon.

Rachel Salmon is playing oboe for the first year with the PYO. She is a distinguished honor roll junior at Pocono Mountain East High School. She also plays the tenor saxophone, mellophone, English horn and sings. She likes science, especially physics, and music. Rachel likes classical music as well as 50s-70s music and jazz. She lists Rachmaninoff, Handel, Ralph Vaughan-Williams and Vaclav Nelhybel as her favorite composers. Her favorite authors are Shannon Hale, Rashelle Mead and Tamora Pierce, but she likes to read pretty much anything. Rachel's hobbies include dancing, reading, costume design, choir and church youth group. She is the choreographer/director/founder of the dance company "Company Libbanblvot" at the School of Visual and Performing Arts. Rachel plans to go to college to become a nanotechnologist. Since this is her first year in the PYO, it is a new experience that she is enjoying because it broadens her musical horizons, and she loves playing her oboe.

This is **Kaitlin Tackles'** third year playing cello for the PYO. She has played with the PJSO for 3 years as well. She is a junior at Stroudsburg High School where she loves being in the show choir and orchestra. She enjoys listening to Broadway music, and some of her favorite composers include Alan Menken, John Williams and Antonio Vivaldi. She enjoys reading *The Secret Life of Bees*, *Eragon*, *Before the Storm*, *The Secret Life of Cece Wilkes* and Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*. Kaitlin belongs to the National Honor Society and her honors include: PFMC Gold Cup, President's Education Awards Program, and she is ranked in the top 3% of her class. Kaitlin's hobbies include singing, acting, dancing, painting and performing with the Country Gate Players. Her future plans include going to a good music school, performing on Broadway and becoming a music or elementary school teacher.

Mac Tasetano is playing trumpet in the PYO for the first time. He is a junior at Stroudsburg High School where he belongs to the National Honor Society and FBLA. He enjoys studying math and pre-calculus and lists Tom Clancy as his favorite author. Mac enjoys boxing and karate. He wants to go to West Point or Annapolis. Mac enjoys playing with the orchestra because it sounds cool.

Gabrielle Truncali is a freshman at Stroudsburg Junior High and is playing violin for her first year with the PYO. She had previously played in PJSO for two years. She also plays the cello and her favorite subjects are English, history, journalism, and orchestra. Her favorite composers are Vivaldi, Beethoven, and Andrew Lloyd Weber. She likes listening to Pop, Rock, Christian, Classical, and Alternative music. Her favorite author is Nicholas Sparks. Gabrielle's honors include PMEA Intermediate District Orchestra, Presidential Award of Academic Excellence, and People to People's Student Ambassador to China. She enjoys reading, writing, running and listening to music. She likes PYO because she can make new friends and learn new

music. Gabrielle aspires to learn the viola and the cello, go to college to study music, and to become a world traveler living in New York City.

A senior at Stroudsburg High School, **Maria Vecchio** has played the viola for four years in PYO and three years in PJSO. She also enjoys playing the violin when given the chance. With science and history being her favorite subjects, she still enjoys listening to hip-hop and modern music. Bach is her favorite composer, and Stephenie Meyer is her favorite author. And if you can't guess it, the *Twilight* Saga ranks highest on her favorite books list. Maria is also involved in the SHS Chamber/Orchestra, the East Stroudsburg Community Orchestra, and the Son Amour String Quartet. When she does get a moment of free time, you can find her bowling, bodysurfing, kayaking, swimming, or catching some big air snowboarding. She enjoys playing in the orchestra because she loves playing her viola. "It's something I'm talented at and it has opened many doors of opportunity." Maria plans to attend East Stroudsburg University and study Biology, then attend a Veterinarian college or become a General Practitioner.

Victoria Visceglia is playing flute and piccolo for the first time with the PYO. She is a junior at Stroudsburg High School and has been selected as first chair flute in this year's District Band. She also was selected for District Orchestra and Regional Band. Her favorite subjects are band and German and she lists her hobbies as playing the flute and writing. Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky are her favorite composers and she enjoys the *Harry Potter* books. Victoria plans to study either music performance or music education. She loves playing the flute and playing music with her friends.

Brianna Weaver is a junior at Commonwealth Connections Academy and is playing violin for her third year with the PYO following three years with the PJSO. Brianna also plays the piano and lists music as her favorite subject. She likes the Trans Siberian Orchestra and piano compositions by Issac Shepard, Beethoven and Bach. Brianna lists D. J. MacHale, J.K. Rowling, Rick Riordan, and Michael Scott as her favorite authors and the *Pendragon* series, *Harry Potter* series, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series and the *Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flannel* series as her favorite books. She belongs to the Chamber Orchestra and lists karate, reading, skiing and snowboarding as her hobbies. Brianna has won numerous awards for dance and has her third degree brown belt in karate. She enjoys PYO because it is a chance to see and make new friends and it is a lot of fun. In addition, the music is great to play. Brianna hopes to have a career in music education.

Kristen Weaver is an eighth grader at Commonwealth Connection Academy. This is her first year playing cello in the PYO following three years in PJSO. She enjoys listening to Christian music. In school her favorite subject is language arts, out of school she enjoys dance, karate, swimming, running and skiing. Kristen's favorite authors are Suzanne Collins, J.K. Rowling, and Stephenie Meyer, and her favorite book is *Percy Jackson and the Last Olympian* by Rick Riordan. Her ambitions are to become a famous dancer, cellist or flutist. Kristen says that she enjoys being in the PYO because "I like playing the difficult pieces and playing with other people."

Nikki Weaver is a ninth grader at Commonwealth Connection Academy. This is her second year in the PYO following three years playing in the PJSO. In addition to bass, she plays oboe, piano, organ and guitar. Nikki's favorite subjects are math and music, her favorite composer is Beethoven, and her favorite author is Stephenie Meyer. She lists *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series and the *Twilight* saga as her favorite books. Nikki plays with the SJHS Chamber Orchestra and the SJHS Jazz Band. She has earned a second degree brown belt in karate. Nikki hopes to become a photographer and a professional musician. Concerning the PYO, she says: "I enjoy challenging myself through music. It's fun!"

Brennen Wede, a homeschooled senior, has been with PYO for three years in the percussion section. He has played the piano since the age of seven and enjoys playing his guitar with the other musicians in his church. His favorite subject is writing because he gets the opportunity to express his ideas using different styles. Bach and Mozart are among his favorite composers. He likes to listen to Christian and classical music and enjoys reading fictional thrillers by Tom Clancy. Brennen has participated in several home school plays, his favorite being *Cheaper by the Dozen*. He has volunteered and worked at Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm giving tours and taking care of the farm animals. He is also a member of the Paws on Deck 4-H Club where he serves as a senior leader and photographer of the club. During his spare time, he plays basketball, goes snowboarding, participates in church youth group, counsels at church camp, plays paintball, and trains his Akita, Hana. Brennen enjoys his time in orchestra because it has given him an opportunity to learn different drumming techniques as well as being lots of fun. He looks forward to attending college to study Biology to hopefully become a paramedic.

This is **Kaitlyn Weiss'** first year in PYO playing the trumpet. She is a freshman at Pocono Mountain West Jr. High. Her favorite subjects in school are social studies and science. John Williams is her favorite composer, and Gregory Maguire is her favorite author. Along with listening to pop, jazz, or anything on the radio, Kaitlyn enjoys reading books like *Leonardo's Shadow*, *Tweak*, *Ithaca*, or *Troy*. She is also involved with Cota Cats and the National Jr. Honor Society. Her hobbies include playing soccer, singing, drawing, or just hanging out with friends. She enjoys orchestra because it enables her to experience a different kind of music. Her future plans are to attend a school for music and make a career of it.

Danielle Wyckoff is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School. She is playing viola in the PYO for her second year following three years in the PJSO. She also plays the piano and lists Bach and Vivaldi as her favorite composers. J.K. Rowling is her favorite author and she lists the *Harry Potter* books and *My Most Excellent Year* as her favorite books. Danielle belongs to the National Ski Patrol, the Stroudsburg High School Chorale and the Student Government. Her hobbies include skiing, tennis and traveling. Danielle likes the PYO because it is a chance to see her friends and to better her musical ability. She hopes to go to a four year college on the East Coast.

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